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Mr. Richard Simmons
Executive Secretary
State of Alabama Board of
Heating and Air Conditioning
Contractors
P. O. Box 7301
Birmingham, Alabama 35253

Heating and Air Conditioning Contractors Board - Licenses and Permits

Heating and Air Conditioning Contractors Board has no discretion to grandfather a person who has not complied with the two requirements of Code of Alabama 1975, § 34-31-28(b).

Dear Mr. Simmons:

Attorney General Graddick is in receipt of your request for an opinion addressing the following question:

What discretion, if any, does the State Board of Heating and Air Conditioning Contractors have to grandfather under Code of Alabama 1975, § 34-31-28(b), a person who was engaged in the business of installing heating and air conditioning systems for at least two years prior to May 4, 1982, but who did not register with the board prior to May 4, 1983?

Code of Alabama 1975, § 34-31-28(b), provides as follows:

A .. (

(b) all persons engaged in the business of installation for a period of at least two years prior to May 4, 1982, shall have a 12 month period following the enactment of sections 34-31-18 through 34-31-34 to register with the board for certification. Such persons shall not be required to stand for an examination, but shall pay the same renewal fees which are charged all other certified contractors. Persons herein certified shall be authorized to perform service and repairs without having to register as a service and repair contractor as provided in subsection (c) hereof.

This subsection makes it clear that there are two requirements for grandfathering by the board. A person must have been engaged in the business of installation for a period of at least two years prior to May 4, 1982, and a person must register with the board for grandfather certification by May 4, 1983. § 34-31-28(b) gives the board no authority to grandfather a person who has not met these two requirements. Accordingly, it is our opinion that the board has no discretion to grandfather under § 34-31-28(b), a person who was engaged in the business of installing heating and air conditioning systems for at least two years prior to May 4, 1982, but who did not register with the board prior to May 4, 1983.

Sincerely,

CHARLES A. GRADDICK ATTORNEY GENERAL

BY:

William D. Witte

WILLIAM D. LITTLE ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL

CAG/wdl/s